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**FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP**

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**FACSIMILE COVER LETTER**

**To:** Commissioner for Patents  
Examiner Anand Shashikant Rao

**Firm:** U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Art Unit 2613

**Facsimile:** (571) 273-8300

**From:** Thomas F. Presson

**Date:** June 2, 2006

**Re:** U.S. Patent Appln. Serial No. 09/474,479  
Sony Ref.: S94P0246US02  
Our Ref.: 450101-2980.2

**Number of Pages:** 4  
(including cover page)

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PATENT  
450101-2980.2**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE****RECEIVED**  
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JUN 02 2006

Applicant : Tsuyoshi Oda  
Serial No. : 09/474,479  
Filed : December 29, 1999  
For : **PICTURE ENCODING METHOD, PICTURE  
ENCODING APPARATUS AND PICTURE  
RECORDING MEDIUM**  
Examiner : Anand Shashikant Rao  
Art Unit : 2613

745 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10151**FACSIMILE**

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to 571-  
273-8300 to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown  
below.

Barnet ShindlerType or print name of  
person signing certificationBarnet Shindler

Signature

June 2, 2006

Date of Signature

**SECOND STATUS INQUIRY**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please advise the undersigned attorney of the status of the above-referenced  
application and as to when we may expect to receive further consideration in this case.

A Request For Continued Examination was filed on August 30, 2004 and an  
Information Disclosure Statement was filed on October 21, 2004.

PATENT  
450101-2980.2

The last communication from the PTO was mailed on December 12, 2004 which specified the substance of an Interview Summary between the Examiner and Mr. Smid that "a notice of allowance has been issued by the Examiner ..." A copy of that Interview Summary is enclosed. As of this date, a Notice of Allowance has not been received by the Applicant's attorney.

It has been almost two years since receipt of the above-mentioned communication from the PTO and the applicant is anxious to receive the Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE &amp; HAUG LLP

By:



Thomas F. Presson

Reg. No. 41,442

(212) 588-0800

<b>Interview Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/474,479	ODA, TSUYOSHI	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Andy S. Rao	2613	

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Andy S. Rao.

(3) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Dennis Smid.

(4) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Interview: 10 December 2004.

Type: a) ☒ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference  
c) ☐ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☒ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☐ No.  
If Yes, brief description: \_\_\_\_\_

Claim(s) discussed: \_\_\_\_\_

Identification of prior art discussed: \_\_\_\_\_

Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☒ was reached. g) ☐ was not reached. h) ☐ N/A.

Substance of interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: The Examiner informed Mr. Smid that the Notice of Non-Compliance sent out does not need to be responded to as this case is a reissue application and the prior submitted amendment was fully compliant with amendment practice for reissue applications. The Examiner also informed Mr. Smid that a notice of allowance has been issued by the Examiner and that prosecution as to the merits of the claims is now closed.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

ANDY RAO  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Examiner's signature, if required